



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR  
ASSESSMENT1- 2024-25  
ENGLISH CORE – CLASS XII

[ SET 2 ]

Date: 17/09/2024

Time: 3 Hrs  
Max. marks: 80

**General Instructions:**

- *This question paper is divided into three Sections.*
  - Section A : Reading – 22 Marks*
  - Section B : Writing Skills - 18 Marks*
  - Section C : Literature - 40 Marks*
- *You may attempt any section at a time.*
- *Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.*
- *All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.*
- *Avoid using correction pen.*
- *Do not exceed the word limit while answering the questions*

**SECTION A- READING ( 22 MARKS )**

**I. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (12MARKS)**

1. No student of a foreign language needs to be told that grammar is complex. By changing word sequences and by adding a range of auxiliary verbs and suffixes, we are able to communicate tiny variations in meaning. We can turn a statement into a question, state whether an action has taken place or is soon to take place, and perform many other word tricks to convey subtle differences in meaning. Nor is this complexity inherent to the English language. All languages, even those of so-called ‘primitive’ tribes have clever grammatical components. The Cherokee pronoun system, for example, can distinguish between ‘you and I’, ‘several other people and I’ and ‘you, another person and I’. In English, all these meanings are summed up in the one, crude pronoun ‘We’. Grammar is universal and plays a part in every language, no matter how widespread it is. So, the question which has baffled many linguists is—who created grammar?
2. At first, it would appear that this question is impossible to answer. To find out how grammar is created, someone needs to be present at the time of a language’s creation, documenting its emergence. Many historical linguists are able to trace modern complex languages back to earlier languages, but in order to answer the question of how complex languages are actually formed, the researcher needs to observe how languages started from scratch. Amazingly, however, this is possible.
3. Some of the most recent languages evolved due to the Atlantic slave trade. At that time, slaves from a number of different ethnicities were forced to work together under colonizer’s rule. Since, they had no opportunity to learn each other’s languages, they developed a make-shift language called a pidgin. Pidgins are strings of words copied from the language of the landowner. They have little in the way of grammar, and in many cases, it is difficult for a listener to deduce when an event happened, and who did what to whom. Speakers need to use circumlocution in order to make their meaning understood. Interestingly, however, all it takes for a pidgin to become a complex language is for a group of children to be exposed to it at the time when they learn their mother tongue. Slave children did not simply copy the strings of words uttered by their elders, they adapted their words to create a new, expressive language. Complex grammar systems which emerge from pidgins are termed creoles and they are

invented by children.

4. Further evidence of this can be seen in studying sign languages for the deaf. Sign languages are not simply a series of gestures; they utilise the same grammatical machinery that is found in spoken languages. Moreover, there are many different languages used worldwide. The creation of one such language was documented quite recently in Nicaragua. Previously, all deaf people were isolated from each other, but in 1979 a new government introduced schools for the deaf. Although children were taught speech and lip reading in the classroom, in the playgrounds they began to invent their own sign system, using the gestures that they used at home. It was basically a pidgin. Each child used the signs differently, and there was no consistent grammar. However, children who joined the school later, when this inventive sign system was already around, developed a quite different sign language. Although it was based on the signs of the older children, the younger children's language was more fluid and compact, and it utilised a large range of grammatical devices to clarify meaning. What is more, all the children used the signs in the same way? A new creole was born.
5. Some linguists believe that many of the world's most established languages were creoles at first. The English past tense -ed ending may have evolved from the verb 'do'. 'It ended' may once have been 'It end-did'. Therefore, it would appear that even the most widespread languages were partly created by children. Children appear to have innate grammatical machinery in their brains, which springs to life when they are first trying to make sense of the world around them. Their minds can serve to create logical, complex structures, even when there is no grammar present for them to copy.

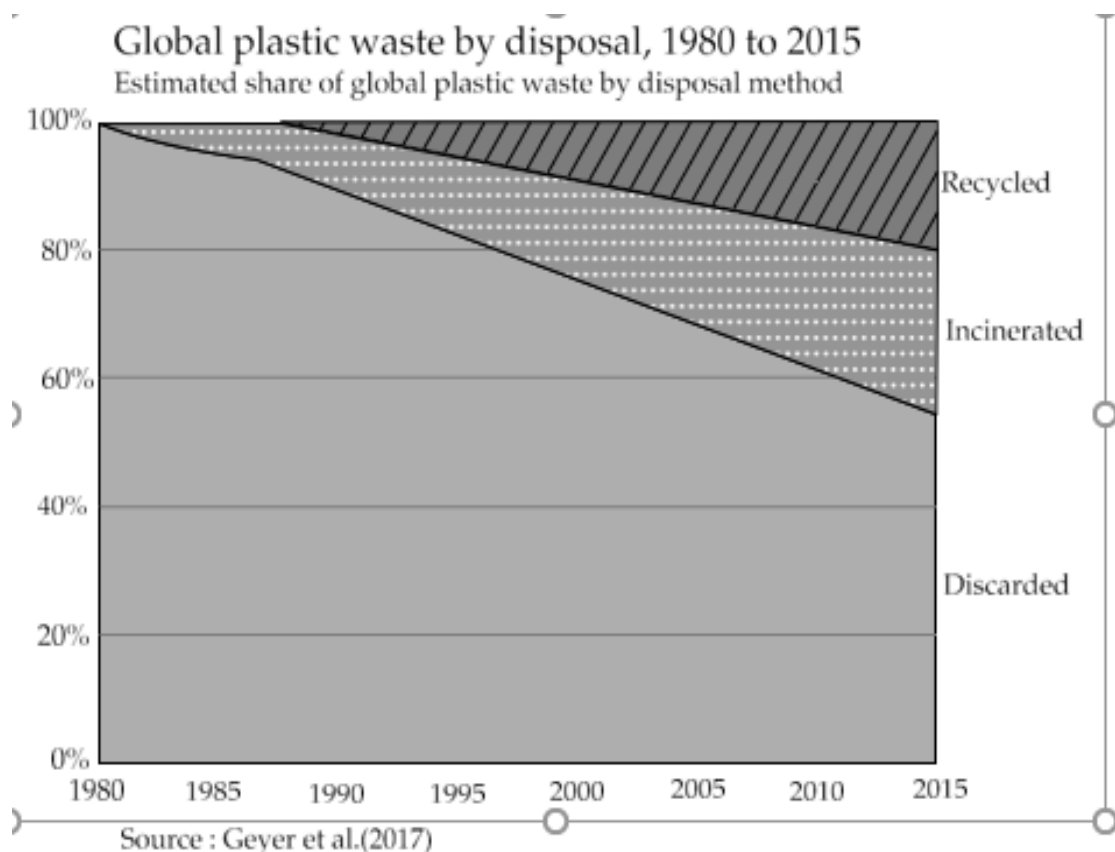
**1.1. On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:**

- (a) Complexity in language is inherent to..... (1)  
(i) all the languages (ii) English  
(iii) tribal languages (iv) primitive languages
- (b) The Cherokee pronoun system can distinguish between..... (1)  
(i) you and I (ii) several other people and I  
(iii) you, another person and I (iv) all of these
- (c) Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the sentences associated with the formation/ creation of grammar. (1)  
1. In order to answer the question of how complex languages are actually formed, the researcher needs to observe how languages started from scratch.  
2. Slaves developed a make-shift language called a pidgin.  
3. Some linguists believe that many of the world's most established languages were creoles at first.  
4. To find out how grammar is created, someone needs to be present at the time of a language's creation.  
(i) 1, 2, 3, 4 (ii) 3, 4, 1, 2  
(iii) 4, 1, 2, 3 (iv) 2, 1, 3, 4
- (d) All the following sentences about Nicaraguan sign language are true except: (1)  
(i) the language has been created since 1979  
(ii) the language is based on speech and lip reading  
(iii) the language incorporates signs which children used at home  
(iv) the language was perfected by younger children
- (e) Some of the most recent languages evolved due to the..... (1)
- (f) What is common to all languages? (1)
- (g) According to the passage what can be attributed as a consequence of the Atlantic slave trade? (2)
- (h) Creoles is a .....? (2)
- (i) Which word in the passage means opposite to 'easy'? (para 1) (1)

- (j) Pick the option that correctly tells how the younger children's mind work in the absence of grammatical knowledge.
1. They create logical structures.
  2. They imitate others.
  3. They have innate grammatical machinery in their brains.
  4. They learn other languages.
- (i) 2 and 3                      (ii) 1 and 3  
(iii) 2 and 4                  (iv) 3 and 4

**II. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: ( 10 MARKS )**

1. When plastic waste is burnt, a complex weave of toxic chemicals is released. Breaking down Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC) used for packaging, toys and coating electrical wires. It produces dioxin, an organochlorine which belongs to the family of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). A recent Dioxin Assessment Report brought out by the United States Environment Protection Agency (USEPA) says the risk of getting cancer from dioxin is ten times higher than reported by the agency in 1994.
2. Yet the Delhi government is giving the green signal to a gasification project which will convert garbage into energy without removing plastic waste. Former transport minister Rajendra Gupta, the promoter of this project, says this is not necessary. He claims no air pollution will be caused and that the ash produced can be used as manure. An earlier waste-to-energy project set-up in Timarpur failed. The new one, built with Australian assistance, will cost `200 crore. It will generate 25 megawatts of power and gobble 1,000 tons of garbage every day.
3. "Technologies like gasification are a form of incineration," says Madhumita Dutta, central coordinator with Toxics Link, New Delhi. Incineration merely transfers hazardous waste from a solid form to air, water and ash, she points out. Toxins produced during incineration include acidic gases, heavy metals as well as dioxins and furans. "The 'manure' will be hazardous and a problem to dispose," says Dutta.
4. Municipal solid waste contains a mix of plastics. Breaking down this waste emits hydrochloric acid which attacks the respiratory system, skin and eyes, resulting in coughing, vomiting and nausea. Polyethylene generates volatile compounds like formaldehyde and acetaldehyde, both suspected carcinogenic. Breathing styrene from polystyrene can cause leukemia. Polyurethane is associated with asthma. Dioxin released by PVC is a powerful hormone disrupter and causes birth defects and reproductive problems. There is no threshold dose to prevent it and our bodies have no defense against it.
5. "Even the best run incinerators in the world have to deal with stringent norms, apart from contaminated filters and ash, making them hugely expensive to operate," says Dutta. In Germany, air pollution devices accounted for two-thirds the cost of incineration. Despite such efforts, the European Dioxin Inventory noted that the input of dioxin into the atmosphere was the highest from incineration.

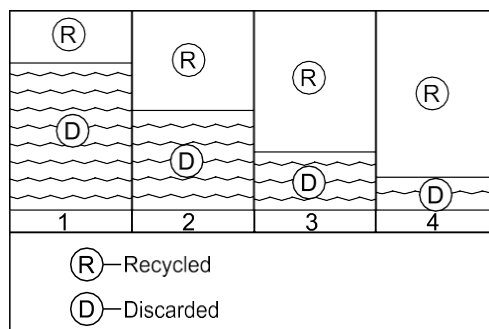


6. How has global plastic waste disposal method changed over time? In the chart, we see the share of global plastic waste that is discarded, recycled or incinerated from 1980 through to 2015. Prior to 1980, recycling and incineration of plastic was negligible; 100 percent was therefore discarded. From 1980 for incineration and 1990 for recycling, rates increased on average by about 0.7 percent per year. In 2015, an estimated 55 percent of global plastic waste was discarded, 25 percent was incinerated and 20 percent recycled.
7. “India does not have the facility to test dioxin and the cost of setting one up is prohibitively expensive,” says Dutta. Besides, Indian garbage has a low calorific content of about 800 cal/kg, since it has high moisture and requires additional fuel to burn. Toxics link calculates that the electricity generated from such technology will cost between 5-7 per unit, which is six times higher than conventional energy. India has chosen a dioxin preventive route and burning of chlorinated plastics is prohibited under Municipal Solid Waste and Biomedical Rules. Nearly 80 percent of Indian garbage is recyclable or compostable. Resident associations, the informal sector and the municipal corporation can make Delhi’s garbage disappear in a sustainable manner. “Instead, the government promotes end of pipeline solutions,” says Dutta.

**2.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:**  
( 10 x 1=10)

- (a) Dioxine causes .....
- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| (i) cancer         | (ii) heart attack |
| (iii) hypertension | (iv) sickness     |
- (b) Which statements are NOT TRUE according to the passage?
1. India has adopted a preventive measure under which burning of chlorinated plastics is prohibited.
  2. USEPA says that the risk of getting cancer from dioxin is hundred times higher than reported by the agency in 1994.
  3. Incineration merely transfers hazardous waste from a solid form to air, water and ash.
  4. Hydrochloric acid attacks the digestive system, nose and eyes which results in diabetes and nausea.

- (i) 2 and 4  
(iii) 3 and 4
- (ii) 1 and 3  
(iv) 1 and 2
- (c) Garbage can be converted into energy by .....
- (d) Based on the graphical chart in the passage, chose the option that correctly states the ratio between discarded waste to recycled global plastic waste in 2015.



- (i) option 1  
(iii) option 3
- (ii) option 2  
(iv) option 4
- (e) Before 1980, how much global plastic waste was discarded?
- (f) Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, choose the option that lists the statements that are TRUE.
1. In the year 2015, the incinerated plastic waste disposal was 80%.
  2. In the year 1980, share of discarded plastic waste was 100%.
  3. Discarded plastic waste was 60% in the year 2010.
  4. Recycled plastic waste in the year 2000 was less than 70%.
- (i) 1 and 3  
(iii) 1 and 4
- (ii) 2 and 3  
(iv) 3 and 4
- (g) Former transport minister Rajendra Gupta claims that during gasification, ash produced can be used as .....
- (h) Converting waste to energy project will generate ..... energy?
- (i) By 2015, how much global plastic waste has been incinerated?
- (j) Which word in the passage means the same as 'waste material'? (para 2)

### SECTION – B WRITING (18 MARKS)

#### III. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below

(A) You are Arjun/ Aparna, President of the Wellness Cell of Lakeview Public School, Pune. You decide to organize a workshop, to raise awareness about the importance of Mental Health. This workshop would be conducted by the school counselor, Ms. Arunima Chauhan. Write a notice, in about 50 words, informing the students of classes IX-XII about the importance of attending the workshop. (4 Marks)

OR

(B) You are Sameera/ Sameer Pathak, Secretary of the Social Service Club of Springdale Public School of Pune. Your school is going to organize a Charity Christmas Carnival for all the students of classes VI-XII on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2024. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing all the students the relevant details.

#### IV. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below:

(A) You are Rukmini/ Raja of R-201, Fort Road, Chennai. Your sister is getting married next month and on behalf of your parents Mr. and Mrs. Sharma, you wish to draft formal invitation to be sent to friends and relatives. Draft the invitation in about 50 words, giving all necessary details. (4 Marks)

**OR**

(B) G.D. Public School, Jammu, wants to conduct a seminar for students on 'Art Therapy-the way forward.' This seminar is to introduce students to the usefulness of art in dealing with personal and social problems. You wish to invite Ms. Arundhati Rao, a famous artist residing in Srinagar. Write an invite to her giving necessary details. You are Gopika Varma, the Cultural Secretary of the school.

**V. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below:**

(A) You are Shubha/Savio residing in Riverdale Apartments, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. You have observed, with increasing concern, that garbage collection continues to be done without segregation in your neighborhood. Write a letter to the editor of The Real Times, Bhubaneswar, in 150 words, explaining your concern along with the rationale behind the importance of garbage segregation. Suggest ways in which the students can participate in this program. ( 5 Marks )

**OR**

(B) You are Amy D'Souza of 83, Model Town. Guwahati, Assam. You are a sports enthusiast and you are upset about the corrupt practices in the field of sports. You decide to express your views through the columns of Times of India Guwahati. Write a letter to the editor in 150 words, explaining your concern.

**VI. Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below:**

(A) Due to the globalization of food industry and fast food culture, traditional healthy diets are increasingly being replaced by unhealthy junk food containing artificial additives and preservative chemicals. Write an article in about 150 words for a national daily on the need for inculcating healthy dietary habits. ( 5 Marks )

**OR**

(B) While reading about new places and searching for them online has its merits, the advantages of actually travelling to various destinations far exceed them. Write an article, in about 150 words, for the magazine Travel Times, evaluating both these options. You are Amrit/Amrita.

### **SECTION C - LITERATURE - 40 Marks**

**VII. Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context.**

**Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.**

**(1x6=6 marks)**

**VII A.**     *"What I want should not be confused  
with total inactivity.  
Life is what it is about;  
I want no truck with death."*

i..       Assertion - The poet is talking about life

Reason – He does not support inactivity.

- Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- A is true but R is false
- A is false but R is true

- ii. What does the poet mean by “inactivity”?
- iii. Explain ‘what life is all about’, according to the poet?
- iv. What does the poet compare inactivity to?
- v. ‘I want no truck with death’. The poetic device used here is ---
  - a. simile
  - b. metaphor
  - c. alliteration
  - d. transferred epithet
- vi. Does the poet advocate total inactivity? Justify your answer.

**OR**

**VII B.**      *“We have imagined for the mighty dead;  
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven’s brink.”*

- i. Who are the 'mighty dead' mentioned in the poem?
- ii. Pick the option that refers to what ‘an endless fountain of immortal drink’ suggests.
  - 1. inspirational deeds of great men
  - 2. a ceaseless series of dreams
  - 3. an infinite source of strength
  - 4. an elixir of life for upliftment of the soul
  - a) 1 and 4
  - b) 2 and 3
  - c) 3 and 4
  - d) 1 and 3
- iii. Pick the words from the poem, which mean: stories and eternal
- iv. What is the endless fountain of immortal drink?
  - a) rivers flowing
  - b) flowing streams
  - c) Sunlight on the earth
  - d) things of beauty
- v. The rhyme scheme of the above lines is .....
- vi. Pick the option that matches the phrase ‘gloomy days’ with the literary device
  - a. oxymoron
  - b. symbolism
  - c. transferred epithet
  - d. simile

**VIII. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.**

**(1x6=6 marks)**

**VIII A.** *“...You should not seek a prop in Mr. Andrews because he happens to be an Englishman”. He had read our minds correctly,” Rajendra Prasad comments, “and we had no reply ...Gandhi in this way taught us a lesson in self-reliance.”*  
*Self-reliance, Indian Independence and help to share croppers were all bound together.*

- i. Complete the statement based on the chapter, 'Indigo'.  
The chapter 'Indigo' is an \_\_\_\_\_ from a Louis Fischer book.
- ii. Who had read their thoughts clearly?
- iii. Word prop is used to mean \_\_\_\_\_
- iv. What did Gandhi teach Rajendra Prasad and the other people?
- Self-reliance
  - Indian independence
  - Prop in Englishman.
  - Faith in Englishman.
- v. Gandhi's protest in Champaran is most appropriately a great model of
- power.
  - leadership.
  - charity.
  - sponsorship.
- vi. "He had read our minds correctly," means
- He had foreseen their dreams
  - He was a mind reader.
  - He had clearly misunderstood him
  - He had expected rebellion

**OR**

**VIII B.** *"Listening to them, I see two distinct worlds-one of the family, caught in a web of poverty, burdened by the stigma of caste in which they are born; the other a vicious circle of the sahkars, the middlemen, the policemen, the keepers of law, the bureaucrats and the politicians. Together they have imposed the baggage on the child that he cannot put down. Before he is aware, he accepts it as naturally as his father. To do anything else would mean to dare. And daring is not part of his growing up. When I sense a flash of it in Mukesh I am cheered. "I want to be a motor mechanic" he repeats."*

- i. i. How would you describe the condition of "the child"?
- abysmal
  - superb
  - burdened
  - manageable
- Options 4 only
  - Options 3 and 4
  - Options 2 and 3
  - Options 1 and 3
- ii. Assertion – Mukesh wants to be a motor mechanic.
- Reason – His family was in the same business.
- Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
  - Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
  - A is true but R is false
  - A is false but R is true



- iii. The word in the extract which means the same as 'brutal' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- iv. The two distinct worlds mentioned here are \_\_\_\_\_.
- v. The phrase 'stigma of caste' here refers to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- grief-stricken life of the bangle makers due to the set norms of the caste
  - the un-touchable bangle makers in Firozabad
  - poor families living in the slums
  - children unable to get proper food and clothes
- vi. Author says, "I am cheered" It suggests that she is happy for Mukesh as \_\_\_\_
- he is passionate about driving and likes to be a mechanic.
  - he is just like other boys in his place and surrenders to his fate.
  - he is daring and different from all the members of his family.
  - he has to work as a mechanic to earn his livelihood.

**IX. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.**

**(1x6=6 marks)**

**IX A. "Thus agreed, together they lifted the man. He was very light, like a fowl that had been half-starved for a long time until it is only feathers and skeleton. So, his arms hanging, they carried him up the steps and into the side door of the house. This door opened into a passage, and down the passage they carried the man towards an empty bedroom. It had been the bedroom of Sadao's father, and since his death it had not been used. They laid the man on the deeply matted floor. Everything here had been Japanese to please the old man, who would never in his own home sit on a chair or sleep in a foreign bed. Hana went to the wall cupboards and slid back a door and took out a soft quilt. She hesitated. The quilt was covered with flowered silk and the lining was pure white silk."**

- i. Who is being talked about in the extract given above?
- ii. "... his arms hanging" indicated the state of the soldier. Pick the option that correctly tells his state.
- Unconscious
  - Weak
  - Strong
  - Rebellious
  - Calm
  - Conscious
- (1) and (2)
  - (2) and (3)
  - (5) and (6)
  - (4) and (5)
- iii. 'She hesitated', why did Hana hesitate?
- iv. Pick the idiom that best describes the situation in which Sadao and Hana were in.
- to be like a fish out of water
  - like water off a duck's back
  - to be dead in the water
  - to be in hot water

**OR**

**IX B. "That night, among my oldest first-day covers, I found one that shouldn't have been there. But there it was. It was there because someone had mailed it to my grandfather at his home in Galesburg; that's what the address on the envelope said."**

- What did 'I' find one night? (1)
- A first-day cover is .....? (1)

c. Assertion – Charlie was surprised to find an envelope among his first day covers.

Reason – It had not been there before.

- a. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- b. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c. A is true but R is false
- d. A is false but R is true

(1)

d. What conclusion did Charlie draw from the letter?

(1)

**X. Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words:**

**( 5 x 2= 10 Marks )**

- (a) According to M Hamel what was the problem with Alsace?
- (b) Why do you think Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning point in his life?
- (c) How were the bangle makers of Firozabad exploited?
- (d) According to Keats, what power does a thing of beauty have?
- (e) “The instructor was finished, but I was not”, What did Doughlas imply by this?
- (f) How did the peddler earn his livelihood?

**XI. Answer any two of the following questions in 30-40 words:**

**( 2 x 2 = 4 Marks )**

- (a) How did Dr. Sadao help the American soldier escape?
- (b) Charlie was a victim of anxiety. How did he try to escape from it?
- (c) Why did the Tiger King decide to get married? What character trait is brought out here?

**XII. Answer any one of the following in 120-150 words:**

**( 5 Marks )**

- a. How is Mukesh’s attitude towards his situation different from that of Saheb? Why?

**OR**

- b. Describe how the story, ‘The Rattrap’ shows that basic human goodness can be brought out by understanding and love.

**XIII. Answer any one of the following in 120-150 words:**

**( 5 Marks )**

- a. The story ‘The Tiger King’ is a satire on the conceit of those in power. How does the author employ the literary device of dramatic irony in the story?

**OR**

- b. Dr Sadao was a true human being who rises above national and cultural prejudices and barriers. Substantiate.

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